

## Samuel Houston to Andrew Jackson, December 13, 1826, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

Washington, December 13, 1826.

*Dear Genl.* , On conferring with Judge White, Major Eaton, and some other especial friends of yours, and perceiving that the statement given to you does not precisely accord with the detailed statement of Dr. Wallace, I have thought it best not to hand your letter to Mr. Southard, but for the present to refer it back to you with a copy of the written statement of Dr. Wallace.

Your friends are of opinion that the better course, is for your to make no application yourself, but to permit it to come thro' some other channel. In conformity with this suggestion, I had prepared in my own name, a letter to the Secretary, a copy of which I inclose you as the better course; I shou'd prefer that it may meet your approbation, for the application, to be made to Mr. Southard, thro' me, acting as I shall state, at your instance, or *otherwise* as you may prefer. It is now a desirable matter with all your friends, to keep you out of collision, as to things said and done; and for whatever action may be thought necessary, for it to proceed thro some friend. Political matters move on as promisingly as the most sanguine can desire!

I trust Sir that you will not for one moment suppose that my course has been dictated by an eye to your political advancement, and that while I woud promote that, that I woud suffer your character, as a man, and Patriot to rest under imputations of dishonor. for permit to assure that no hope of earthly elevation for you, or myself coud induce me, to forget for one moment the personal relations in which I have the pleasing satisfaction, and the honor to consider myself in relation to you.

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If you should write directly thro me to Mr. Southard, I pray you to let it be in the mildest, calmest tone of expression. The very fact of his conduct and statement, will most effectually damn him, and those united with him.

Eatons letter in answer to Roberts, and Genl. Adairs letter to Mr. Pope, 1 have a most happy effect, and whilst the administration are on their back, they wou'd be glad that something wou'd occur to divert for a spell, the public eye from them.

1 See *Niles' Register* , XXXI. 195–196.

I will most promptly obey any directions which you may give me on this subject but trust it will meet your views for me to make the demand of Mr. Southard.

In a few days I will call, and look the Dept for your letters as directed by you, and let you know the result of my search. Mr. Randolph has returned, and is one of the most cool and dignified men in the senate. I met him, when he asked me most kindly about Mrs. J and yourself. When I presented you to him, he was much pleased, and asked me to express to you his thanks. The old Dominion will reelect him, I have no doubt.

Be pleased to present me to Mrs. Jackson, and say to her that her friends here are very many, and express a confident hope of seeing her here before long!!

I have the honor to be most truly your friend

P. S. Nothing will be done until I hear from you. Matters do not require expedition!